

Media release

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Airservices completes upgrade to terminal area radar in Perth

Airservices, the nation's air navigation services provider, has completed essential upgrade works on the terminal area radar (TAR) near Perth Airport. The upgrade is part of a \$90 million Australian Mode S Terminal Area Radar (AMSTAR) program.

The upgraded Perth TAR will ensure that Airservices continues to provide safe and efficient movement of air traffic through airspace around Perth Airport.

Airservices Executive General Manager Projects and Engineering, Mark Rodwell, said, "The upgraded radar will deliver significant benefits to the aviation industry, including higher rates of operational availability, improved data and less frequent maintenance requirements.

"The upgrade to Perth TAR will also ensure that the equipment continues to function safely and efficiently and is vital to Perth Airport operations as it provides essential information to air traffic controllers' who control aircraft in the surrounding airspace," he said.

Perth Airport did not suffer any disruptions to its services throughout the upgrade with short term radar coverage provided by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) radar at Eclipse Hill and Airservices existing en route surveillance radar at Kalamunda. This removed the need for a temporary transportable radar to be installed during the upgrade.

On completion of the upgrade a stringent flight inspection testing program has been carried out to ensure the radar was operating within a high degree of accuracy.

Perth Airport is the 4th busiest airport in Australia, with the number of flights increasing by 40 per cent, to around 400 flights a day, and flight numbers continuing to grow at 13 per cent per year.

Airservices has so far upgraded seven radars as part of the AMSTAR program.

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